



Florida Advanced Technological Education Center

NEWS from
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WORKFORCE TRAINING WORKSHOP AT HCC
AN INTRODUCTION TO INDUSTRIAL BIOTECHNOLOGY

Hillsborough Community College (HCC) and FCoE-BITT (Florida Center of Excellence for Biomolecular Identification and Targeted Therapeutics) are hosting a three-day industrial biotechnology workshop for incumbent workers, teachers, and others who want to increase their skill level in biotechnology. The workshop will be held May 20-22, from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. at HCC-Brandon, and will serve as an entry-level course for development of skills needed to function in today's biotechnology industry.

Course content is geared to cover a wide variety of topics. Kim Wilson, project manager for FCoE-BITT says "It will integrate concepts in processes and facilities with quality compliance to simulate the work experience in a regulated environment." It will cover two tracks: Processes & Facilities and Regulatory Affairs; and Quality Assurance and Quality Control using a blend of on-line modules, classroom exercises, and wet-lab skills.

During the workshop participants will be divided into groups to work as a "company" to manufacture a purified plasmid. Each company will consist of a Quality Assurance; Quality Control; Regulatory Affairs group, and a Processes & Facilities group. The production process will be performed twice giving all students the opportunity to experience the roles and responsibilities of each department.

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1st add industrial biotechnology workshop

To successfully complete the training and receive industry-recognized certificate, students are required to attend 24 hours of laboratory-based instruction, complete 16 hours of on-line curriculum, and pass the corresponding exams. Prior to attending the first day of class, students are also required to complete four online modules in technical vocabulary, safe work environment, handling hazardous materials, and technical mathematics.

For more information, or to register for the workshop visit <http://www.fl-ate.org/projects/bitt.html>, or contact Dr. Marilyn Barger at 813.253.6578/barger@fl-ate.org.

FCoE- BITT (Florida Center of Excellence for Bimolecular Identification for Targeted Therapeutics) is a state legislatively-supported biotechnology-based applied research center. The research and development center is located at the University of South Florida in Tampa, and its workforce development program is housed in FLATE at Hillsborough Community College in Brandon. FCoE-BITT is one of several Florida centers of excellence committed to transitioning applied research to local and statewide economic development. For more information visit <http://fl-ate.org/projects/bitt.html>

Hillsborough Community College – Brandon campus serves approximately 6800 students per semester and is home to the college's manufacturing related academic programs and FLATE Center for Manufacturing. HCC is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097) to award associate degrees, diplomas, and certificates. For more information, please visit: www.hccfl.edu.

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